

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 4, 6, and 9 are in independent form. New Claims 6-10 have been added to provide Applicant with a more complete scope of protection. Claim 4 has been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Office Action states that the title of the invention is not descriptive. The title has been amended to read as follows: --COMMUNICATION APPARATUS FOR RING-TYPE MULTIPLE ADDRESS TRANSMISSION/RECEPTION--. Applicant respectfully submits that the title, as amended, is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

At paragraph 5 of the Office Action, the drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5). The Office Action states that the drawings include the following reference sign not mentioned in the description: Fig. 1, #26. Applicant submits that reference numeral 26 of Fig. 1 is mentioned in the description, for example at page 4, line 13, and at several places on page 5, among others. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,170,428 to Watanabe et al.

Claim 1 is directed to a communication apparatus adapted to perform ring-type multiple-address transmission, the apparatus including a registration unit, a start selector, a ring-type multiple-address reception transfer selector, and a controller. The registration unit registers a sub-address signal and a communication specification so as to correspond to a memory box. The start selector selects a start of a ring-type multiple-address transmission. The ring-type

multiple-address reception transfer selector selects a transfer of a ring-type multiple-address reception. The controller performs a control operation so that, when a start of ring-type multiple-address transmission has been selected, transmitter information is added, and, when a transfer of ring-type multiple-address reception has been selected, the transmitter information is not added.

One important feature of Claim 1 is that when a start of ring-type multiple-address transmission has been selected, transmitter information is added, and, when a transfer of ring-type multiple-address reception has been selected, the transmitter information is not added.

Watanabe et al. relates to a data communication apparatus. Fig. 1 is a diagram for explaining the repeating multiple-address transmission of Watanabe et al. In Fig. 1, reference numeral 1 denotes a facsimile apparatus as a repeater station for performing the repeating multiple-address transmission; 2 is a facsimile apparatus for requesting the repeating multiple-address transmission; 3 is a facsimile apparatus for receiving the repeating data from the facsimile apparatus 1; 4 is a data communication network which is used for only the data communication or for the communication of digital data; and 5 is a telephone network which is used for the communication of voice and data.

Fig. 2 is a block diagram showing a facsimile apparatus. Reference numeral 6 denotes a CPU to control the whole apparatus; 7 is an operation unit to input a telephone number and the like; 8 is a read unit to read an original document; 9 is a record unit; 10 is an image memory to store image data upon transmission and reception; 11 is a selection signal transmission unit to the network and a transmission/reception unit of a procedure signal and an image signal; 12 is a detection circuit of a facsimile call signal which is incoming from the data communication network; 13 is a detection circuit of a call signal which is incoming from the

telephone network; 14 is a hook detection circuit to detect the state (ON or OFF) of the receiver of a telephone set which is connected to the facsimile apparatus; 15 is a CML relay to switch between the transmission/reception unit 11 and a main telephone set 16 or among the detection circuits 12 to 14; 16 is the main telephone set; 17 is a circuit; 18 is a ROM in which a control program is stored; 19 is a RAM in which various kinds of telephone numbers of a partner for permitting the repeating multiple-address transmission, repeating multiple-address reception station, and the like are stored; and 20 is a battery to back up the content of the RAM 19.

Applicant submits that nothing in Watanabe et al. would teach or suggest that the controller (CPU 6) (a) adds transmitter information when a start of ring-type multiple-address transmission has been selected, and (b) does not do so when a transfer of ring-type multiple-address reception has been selected, as recited in Claim 1.

The Office Action cites, in particular, column 4, lines 45-55, of Watanabe et al. As discussed in that portion, the telephone number of the station for requesting the repeating multiple-address transmission and the telephone number of the repeating multiple-address reception station are previously registered in a facsimile apparatus having the function for the repeating multiple-address transmission. An originating call is automatically performed to this facsimile. Therefore, there is no need to indicate the telephone number of the repeating multiple-address reception station from the station for requesting the repeating multiple-address transmission.

However, nothing in that portion of Watanabe et al., or indeed anywhere else in that patent, is believed to teach or suggest that when a start of ring-type multiple-address transmission has been selected, transmitter information is added, and, when a transfer of ring-

type multiple-address reception has been selected, the transmitter information is not added, as recited in Claim 1.

Accordingly, Claim 1 is seen to be clearly allowable over Watanabe et al.

Independent Claim 6 is a method claim corresponding to apparatus Claim 1, and is believed to be patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 1.

Claim 4 is directed to a communication apparatus adapted to perform ring-type multiple-address transmission, the apparatus including a memory, a transfer unit, an identification unit, and a processor. The memory stores received data, and the transfer unit is arranged to transfer the received data stored in the memory. The identification unit identifies whether or not the received data is data assigned to be subjected to ring-type multiple-address processing. The processor causes the transfer unit to transfer the received data without adding transmitter information if the received data is data assigned to be subjected to ring-type multiple-address processing, and causes the transfer unit to transfer the received data with the transmitter information added thereto if the received data is not data assigned to be subjected to ring-type multiple-address processing.

Applicant submits that nothing in Watanabe et al. would teach or suggest that in a ring-type multiple-address processing situation, received data will be transferred without adding transmitter information, and where the received data is not to be subjected to ring-type multiple-address processing, the received data will be transferred with the transmitter information added.

That is, nothing in Watanabe et al. is believed to teach or suggest causing the

transfer unit to transfer the received data without adding transmitter information if the received data is data assigned to be subjected to ring-type multiple-address processing, and causing the transfer unit to transfer the received data with the transmitter information added thereto if the received data is not data assigned to be subjected to ring-type multiple-address processing, as recited in Claim 4.

Accordingly, Claim 4 is seen to be clearly allowable over Watanabe et al.

Independent Claim 9 is a method claim corresponding to apparatus Claim 4, and is believed to be patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 4.

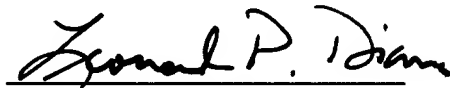
The other rejected claims in this application depend from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and, therefore, are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual consideration or reconsideration, as the case may be, of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

No petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action is deemed necessary for the present Amendment. If, however, such a petition is required to make this Amendment timely filed, then this paper should be considered such a petition and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite petition fee to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Leonard P. Diana", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicant
Leonard P. Diana

Registration No. 29,296

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

NY_MAIN 422666v1